

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 101152  
ORIGIN ARA-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /005 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: ARA/CAR: DPIERCE

APPROVED BY: ARA/CAR: DPIERCE

-----041851Z 000321 /43

O 041827Z MAY 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KINGSTON IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 101152

FOR TED HEAVNER

FOLLOWING REPEAT BRIDGETOWN 970 ACTION SECSTATE INFO SECDEF CINCLANT  
MAY 3.

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L BRIDGETOWN 0970

CINCLANT FOR POLAD

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, BB

SUBJECT: MILITARY FACILITY NEGOTIATIONS

REF STATE 097307 (NOTAL)

1. BY APPOINTMENT, I CALLED THIS MORNING (MAY 3) ON A.W.  
SYMMONDS, PERMANENT SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS;  
DELIVERED TO HIM THE EMBASSY REPLY TO THE MINISTRY'S NOTE  
OF APRIL 27, PROPOSING A VISIT BY SENIOR GOB OFFICIALS TO  
THE NAVAL FACILITY; AND INFORMED HIM ORALLY THAT AN EXCEP-  
TION FROM NATIONAL SECURITY DISCLOSURE POLICY HAD BEEN RE-  
QUESTED FOR A CLASSIFIED BRIEFING AND ACCESS TO SECURE AREAS  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 101152

FOR VERY SENIOR GOB OFFICIALS.

2. SYMMONDS EXPRESSED NO DISSATISFACTION WITH THE EMBASSY'S  
REPLY AND SAID HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR THE UN-  
CLASSIFIED BRIEFING TO TAKE PLACE MAY 5. (I HAD ALREADY  
DISCUSSED THE MATTER WITH THE COMMANDING OFFICER OF THE  
NAVAL FACILITY, WHO TOLD ME THAT ANY DAY THIS WEEK

WOULD BE AGREEABLE TO HIM.) SYMMONDS THEN INQUIRED WHETHER THE USG HAD DRAWN UP A PROPOSED AGENDA FOR THE NEGOTIATIONS DUE TO BEGIN MAY 12. I REMINDED HIM THAT, IN THE EMBASSY'S NOTE OF APRIL 26, INFORMING THE MINISTRY OF THE COMPOSITION OF THE US NEGOTIATING TEAM, THE GOB HAD BEEN ASKED WHETHER IT WISHED TO PROPOSE AN AGENDA OR SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS.

3. IT WAS OBVIOUS THAT SYMMONDS HAD OVERLOOKED THIS PART OF THE NOTE BUT, RATHER THAN ADMIT TO HAVING BEEN SO CARELESS, HE REPLIED TO MY REJOINDER THAT THE GOB DID NOT EVEN KNOW WHAT IT WAS THE USG WANTED TO NEGOTIATE -- WHETHER A NEW AGREEMENT, THE TERMS UNDER WHICH THE BASE WOULD BE CLOSED OUT, OR SOMETHING ELSE. "JUST WHAT IS THE BASIC US POSITION?" HE ASKED. "TO SUME IT UP IN A FEW WORDS" I ANSWERED, "THE BASIC POSITION IS THAT WE WOULD LIKE TO CONTINUE TO OPERATE THE BASE BUT DO NOT REGARD ITS CONTINUED OPERATION AS ESSENTIAL TO US SECURITY AND ARE PREPARED TO CLOSE IT IF NECESSARY." THIS STATEMENT CLEARLY CAME AS A SHOCK TO SYMMONDS. REVERTING TO A FAMILIAR THEME, HE REMARKED THAT BARBADOS INCURRED CERTAIN RISKS, INCLUDING THE RISK OF DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL CENSURE, BY ALLOWING THE BASE TO OPERATE HERE. I REPLIED THAT I WAS AWARE THAT THERE HAS BEEN SOME CRITICISM OF THE BASE'S PRESENCE BUT THAT, INSOFAR AS I KNEW, NONE OF IT HAD COME FROM WHAT COULD BE DESCRIBED AS NEUTRAL SOURCES, AND I POINTED OUT THAT THE BASE MADE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE BARBADIAN ECONOMY AND WAS THE CHIEF EMPLOYER IN THE PARIS OF ST. LUCY.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 101152

4. AS I WAS ABOUT TO TAKE MY LEAVE OF HIM, SYMMONDS SAID THAT THE MINISTRY WOULD WITHIN THE NEXT "COUPLE OF DAYS" SEND THE EMBASSY A NOTE PROPOSING AN AGENDA FOR THE FIRST ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS. AMONG THE SUBJECTS THAT CLEARLY SHOULD BE DISCUSSED, HE ADDED, WAS THAT OF "RETROACTIVE COMPENSATION" AND, FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUCH DISCUSSION, THE GOB WOULD REQUIRE ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS RAISED IN THE MINISTRY'S NOTE OF MARCH 30. I AGAIN TOLD HIM, AS I HAD UPON RECEIPT OF STATE 075513, THAT IT WOULD TAKE SOME TIME TO PROVIDE ANY OF THE INFORMATION REQUESTED AND THAT MUCH OF IT WOULD PROBABLY NOT BE RETRIEVABLE. SYMMONDS ALSO SAID THE MINISTRY'S NOTE WOULD LIST THE MEMBERS OF THE BARBADOS NEGOTIATING TEAM. SIMMS UNQUOTE VANCE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC NOTES, MILITARY BASES, VISITS, DEBRIEFINGS, NEGOTIATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 04-May-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977STATE101152  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** ARA/CAR:DPIERCE  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770156-0958  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770594/aaaaddas.tel  
**Line Count:** 111  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 0a498c9a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN ARA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 STATE 97307  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 24-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2640905  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MILITARY FACILITY NEGOTIATIONS  
**TAGS:** MARR, BB, US, (SYMMONDS, A W)  
**To:** KINGSTON  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/0a498c9a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009